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SOCCER WORLD

THE VOICE OF
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

15c

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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Best in Australia

Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES

AUSSIE TEAM FETED IN SYDNEY FIESTA

— By PAUL DEAN —

Sydney, this supposedly cynical, blase and over-sophisticated city, gave a tearful, sentimental midnight welcome to the Australian team.

As the tired, but broadly smiling players and officials entered the airport's hall one by one, a crowd of 500 gave them a thundering reception.

The trimmings did justice to the occasion.

The five-piece, uniformed St. George-Budapest band; the same club's drum majorettes; the dozens of streamers, placards and banners were all there.

It was a motley crowd of enthusiasts; Federation and club officials, relatives,

friends, fans and — yes, despite the lateness of the hour — bright-eyed, alert, profoundly proud children.

This was no ordinary occasion, one felt; this was a very special carnival, a moving rendezvous between people joined together in almost holy bond by the common love of soccer.

I have seen many Australian sporting teams come and go; on occasions — particularly in daytime — the crowd may have been bigger.

But never did I see a crowd more carried away by enthusiasm and pride.

Many of them must have felt that if ever there was an hour for Australian soccer to hold its head high, this was that hour.

It was bedlam — wonder-

ful, colorful, unforgettable bedlam.

Players were torn out of the arms of their wives by complete strangers for a warm handshake, an embrace.

Ceremony and formality were pushed aside — this was soccer's nocturnal fiesta, not just an official occasion.

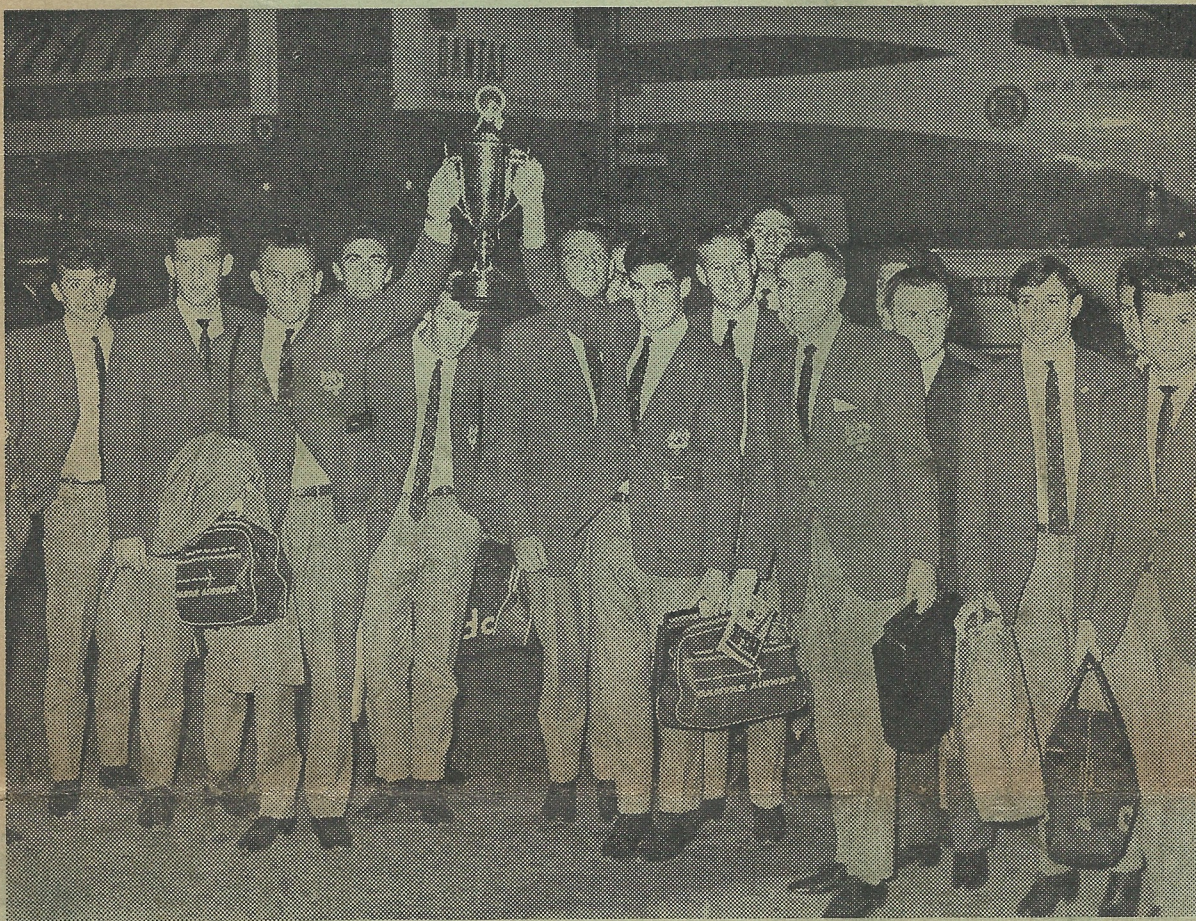
There were, of course, welcoming speeches and replies; usually fluent and lucid speakers were groping for words, the right expression.

There were cheers and toasts and many a hurrah — but basically, this was a reunion between 18 wonderful players, their mentors — and their admirers.

Stunned and bewildered outsiders — pilots, police, porters — could only stand and gape and grin at the sight of this almost pagan ritual, wondering how a small leather ball and its round-about ways could generate all this emotion.

The hour, indeed, belonged to Australian soccer.

And if the foundations for a brighter future were laid in the steamy heat of Saigon, they were certainly cemented at Sydney airport about midnight, on Tuesday, November twenty-eight, in the memorable year of nineteen-sixty-seven.



"The Cup is ours," — the expression on the faces of these happy Australians seems to say at Mascot Airport.

TOURISTS SPEAK OF "SPIRIT OF SAIGON"

These were some of the tourists' comments on arrival in Sydney:

Team manager John Bar-

clay: "The moving Sydney welcome was just as unforgettable as the stirring scenes after we won the final in Saigon."

Co-team manager Jim Connell: "The team spirit that bound every member of the party together, was the secret of the team's successes."

Masseur Lou Lazzari: "The almost total lack of injuries is unprecedented in all my years in sport."

Dr. Brian Corrigan: "This was my unconditional conversion to soccer."

Joe Vlasits: "This reception at the airport . . . the happiest hour of my life. And proudest, too."

John Warren: "I'll never forget the knowledgeable and friendly Saigon crowds. In the final against South Korea it was almost like playing at home."

Ray Baartz: "The Australian servicemen in Saigon couldn't do enough for us."

Alan Westwater: "I still can't believe we've won. I don't think any Australian present at Cong Hoa Stadium will ever forget the thrill and pride we all felt."

Stan Ackerley: "Wouldn't have missed the tour for anything."

John Watkiss: "Though bitterly disappointed at being sidelined through injury, I also wouldn't have missed the tour for anything in the world."

Referee Tony Boskovic:

"The bond which exists between referees all over the world amazed me."

Attila Abonyi: "I was lucky with all those goals . . . But seriously, it was a pleasure with such partners."



Skipper John Warren with jungle hat and a bouquet; a happy Ray Richards behind him.



Part of the fantastic scene which awaited the triumphant team in the main hall of Sydney International Airport.

SAINTS' GREAT LEAP FORWARD

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

St. George's "Great Leap Forward" could well be personified in the mentioning of Geoff Morgan, present centre-half of the St. George-Budapest grand final winning team.

A couple of seasons ago he was an unknown junior with the big Sans Souci club — today, at the age of 18, he is a full Australian under-23 international.

Many young Geoff Morgans are coming forward.

St. George-Budapest's fine third grade team came mainly from the 1966 Inter-District team.

The 1967 Inter-District under-16 team took out the premiership, and then defeated Illawarra to win the State Amateur Championship.

Apart from the hard work put into administration and coaching, the district was very fortunate in its connection with the St. George-Budapest club.

Their know-how and 24 hour-a-day attitude gave the St. George Juniors just the lift they needed, and the club premises at Mortdale have provided a real soccer centre.

Association president, Mr. A. R. Gardner, is able to point with pride to the improved structure and methods and the senior-junior co-operation which he has seen and helped in his four years of office.

There is no doubt that the Saints have talent in depth.

Their under-15 representatives won the Metropolitan championship, and only lost the State title in Newcastle by the odd goal in three.

Ranged behind the representatives were a record total of 179 teams, drawn from 16 clubs.

Sans Souci won the BMC club championship, and also the All-Age premiership.

Peakhurst United fielded 29 teams, followed by Sans Souci 24, Lugarno Peakhurst 20, Ramsgate 18, Carrs Park and Kogarah Waratah 15 each.

Referees and coaching receive full prominence in St. George.

J. Morey and Ian Timms conducted refereeing classes, and 40 referees controlled 2,528 games in competition proper alone.

The Association's needs will increase in 1968, and secretary A. S. Tanner will be glad to hear from more prospective referees so that all fixtures can be covered.

GRANVILLE

Traditionally one of Sydney's leading soccer districts, Granville continues to show out in junior and amateur football.

This year Granville reached the semifinals in all Metropolitan knock-out series grades with one exception, and succeeded in the finals in three grades.

Its under-14 and 16 teams each occupied third place in the prestige Inter-District Representative Leagues.

Two of the Magpies' clubs — Guildford under-16 and Lidcombe Waratah under-12 — won "Champion of Champions" titles.

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The Inter-District representative teams were coached by John Burtenshaw and Bobby Wall.

Bobby Wall, hard working wing-half in many Granville State League successes, is passing on his knowledge to the younger generation.

This year Burtenshaw gained the coveted Allan Forbes Trophy, awarded annually for outstanding service to soccer in Granville, and which honors the labors of former secretary Allan Forbes.

This year saw Granville Waratah gain top position in All-Age first division, with Rydalmere as runners-up.

Seven Hills took out the second division title, with Dundas placed next.

Two-hundred and sixty-four teams drawn from 26 clubs played in the Association.

NEW CLUBS

Granville has benefited greatly over the years from the drive imparted by its long-service clubs such as Granville Waratah, Granville Kewpie, Auburn, St. Johns and Guildford.

The feature which thrilled local junior enthusiasts was the way in which new clubs swung into action in 1967, thus ensuring solid growth for the future.

Lynwood Park, new junior club from Seven Hills, was good enough to take out the marching trophy at Presentation Day and young clubs Castle Hill RSL and North Rocks were in the minor places.

All the new clubs did well, Castle Hill United being particularly successful, and Lynwood Park, Pendle Hill and Castle Hill RSL showing up well in minor grades.

Amongst the "older" clubs, Guildford had a good year, winning four league competitions, and six round robins.

Granville Waratah were also prominent, with four league wins and one round-robin.

Kewpie came home in the under-18s.

The Granville Association has two of its main executives drawn from the fairer sex, Mrs. N. Packer as secretary, and Mrs. B. Roper as treasurer.

Mr. Bert Packer was re-elected president at the annual meeting.

The only major change at the AGM was that Keith Guthrie took over Jack Watkins' place as Senior Vice-President.

All in all, 1967 was a heartening year for the G and DFA, with 1968 certain to be bigger still.

On the senior front, both Cumberland and Granville-Parramatta will be in Federation Second Division.

The City of Parramatta and other areas in the Granville boundaries are of such importance to soccer and to the local juniors that the key must be found to put the district back where it belongs — in the forefront of Australian senior football.

Let us hope that 1968 will see the right business and sporting interests combining to achieve just that.

SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

St. George-Budapest are almost certain to play three matches in New Caledonia between December 17 and 26. However, as some of the Saints' regulars are unavailable, they will invite some guest players for the trip.

DAVE SIMMONDS, the former Corinthians centre-half, will return to New Zealand next season. Simmonds left the Nomads club of Christchurch in 1964 after playing 23 times for Canterbury Province.

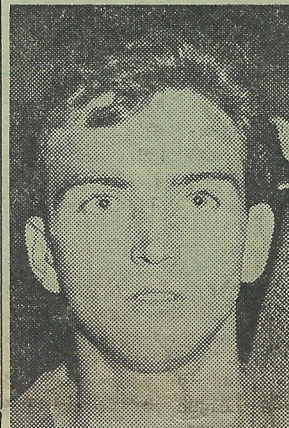
* * *

The Marrickville Council will make its decision public on Dec. 7 on the Federation's TEMPE Stadium project. Last week a three-man Federation delegation, headed by president Jim Bayutti, received a favorable hearing at an open Council meeting.

* * *

The Annual General Meeting of the NSW AMATEUR ASSOCIATION will be held on Saturday, December 9, at 2 p.m. at the "Orient Room", Chevron Hotel, Potts Point, Sydney. If necessary the meeting will continue after dinner and shall not be adjourned, as in previous years, until the following week.

* * *



South Coast United's classy winger, PETER BEATTIE, has decided not to ask for a transfer. Beattie was hoping to move to Sydney but Jim Kelly's return has prompted him to remain at Woonona. It was Kelly who "discovered" Beattie some five years ago.

* * *

FRANCIS PARK, Blacktown, will not be available for football in 1968. The ground is to undergo a thorough overhaul for repairs. The playing pitch is to be given a good rest to allow the growing of grass.

* * *

South Coast's hush-hush capture is a big-name English centre forward, reportedly coming out with JIM KELLY in December. Kelly is coming for one year, without his wife; if things work out, he will get a long contract and she will follow him.

* * *

The Blacktown club, ST. PATRICKS, have acquired the Blacktown Showground's Soccer Ground for 1968. The

secretary wishes to advise all the players that training at the Showground will start on Monday, February 12, 1968. Players are still wanted from 10 years upwards. All those interested to play for St. Patrick's should ring 622-3412 or 622-6115.

* * *

Last week's AGM voted down a motion designed to drastically change the "local player" rule. As a result, in 1968 each First Division club will have to field FOUR, instead of THREE players who qualify under this rule.

* * *

LOU BRODIC, the former New Zealand national coach, is in Melbourne for 10 days as guest of South Melbourne-Hellas. Brodic will stop over in Sydney for a few days on his way home to Wellington.

* * *

Highly delighted with his performances on the tour, the ASF is almost certain to retain JOE VLASITS as national team coach for at least 1968.

* * *

WARRINGAH SAINTS' Annual General Meeting was held on November 16. Jack Brook was elected president; Gus Huevel, secretary; Dick Gee, treasurer; Peter Jones, social secretary; Gary Ambrosia, players' representative; John Boreham, publicity officer. The Saints have ambitious plans for 1968. They plan to enter two additional teams in under-15 and 19 age groups, making a total of six teams. Coaching assistance to juniors in the district will also be accentuated.

* * *

A leading soccer official and a reporter from a daily newspaper are planning to launch their own "SOCCER POOL" (tipping contest) with prizes, etc.

* * *

Two St. George stars will get MARRIED soon: Roger Hillary on December 9 and John Warren on December 29. Meanwhile, the Zuckermans are awaiting the arrival of their first baby.

* * *

APIA have suspended one of their star players — a big name Australian international — on "disciplinary" grounds. The player wants out with the club and is seeking a transfer.

* * *

Well-known soccer identities BOB and DENNIS MADEN have excelled in yet another sport. Last weekend the father and son combination turned on a match-winning display at the Cricket KO Competition at Caringbah Oval.

* * *

The Western Suburbs under-18 team, returning a visit to their Altona (Vic.) friends, were involved in a nasty CAR SMASH in Melbourne 12 days ago. The driver of their bus — an Altona official — was killed and several of the Sydney players were injured.

* * *

At the Annual General Meeting held last week, Col Harwood was re-elected president of SUTHERLAND SHIRE SC for 1968. Alan Hutton is the vice-president, Bob Miller, the secretary, and as Public Relations Officer, the club retained Frank Burgess.

* * *

Most defeated candidates in the Executive Committee elections last week waited only long enough to hear the end of counting, then departed. One who stayed behind was MAX GARRETT who remarked philosophically: "I will devote all my energy and attention now to our great ambition: to get Western Suburbs into First Division".

* * *

APIA's Dutch forward, BILLY KERKLAAN, returns to Holland on December 9. The future of the former Lion (Melbourne) player is uncertain. He is still undecided whether to return to Australia.

* * *

One of soccer's legendary heroes will arrive with the Czech Slavia team soon: the great FRANTISEK PLANICKA, universally regarded in the 1930s as the world's greatest goalkeeper. A former Slavia star himself, Planicka is coming with the team as a "goodwill tourist".

* * *

Cumberland United have been officially renamed AUBURN SFC. Ken Ferguson has been re-elected president. At last week's AGM Brian Leonard was elected as the club's new secretary and Jim Paterson as vice-president. Auburn have reduced their management committee from 21 to a more workable nine.

* * *

GINTER GAWLIK, who went into semi-retirement midway through last season, has resumed training. The Polish star, though very much on the wrong side of 30, is very keen to play again next season.

* * *

ROY BLITZ is restless once again, according to strong rumors Pan Hellenic are willing to release him — possibly to Hakoah — for a "modest" few thousand.

WHERE IS WEE WILLIE?

Rumors swept Sydney this week that the famous Glasgow Rangers and Scotland winger, Willie Henderson had arrived — with a free clearance "in his pocket".

At one stage Executive Committee member John Thomson — a fellow Scot — admitted knowing about it; half an hour later he denied it and called it a hoax.

The first we heard about it was when an excited Scot rang us from Mascot airport, blurring out the news.

A quick check with some of the major clubs proved negative.

So the big question is: did "wee" Willie really arrive in Australia — or was somebody just pulling a fast Scotch-tape over our eyes?

N. Zealand beats W.A.

The New Zealand national team, on its way home from Saigon and Kuala Lumpur, beat a Western Australian XI 5-2 in Perth.

The Western Australian side, including some promising young players making their international debut, was nowhere near full strength, yet had the satisfaction of doing better than Malaysia, thrashed 8-2 by the Kiwis a few days earlier.

Played at Lederville, the match attracted 2,800 spectators.

The New Zealanders, who fielded almost the same team that lost 3-5 to Australia in Saigon, were clearly superior, especially in team work.

They led 1-0 at the break through a goal by Shaw in the 33rd minute.

The first half, though, was WA's as they enjoyed a marked territorial advantage in the first 30 minutes when the New Zealanders still hadn't found their feet.

After the interval, despite Holt's equaliser in the 54th minute, the Kiwis were completely on top and rattled in another three goals, two of them by young Turner, their most talented forward.

Western Australia's second half goal came from a penalty by the State's most exciting prospect, Debono.

Scorers: Shaw 33 min., Turner 58 and 63 mins., Gowan 75 min., Legg 82 min. for New Zealand; Holt 54 min. and Debono 77 min. for WA.

Re again

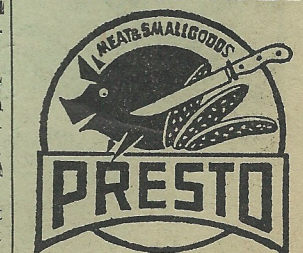
Julius Re has been re-elected president of the Western Australian Federation.

Re, however, just squeezed in, three votes ahead of J. Sterner, the WA vice-president.

The WA Annual General Meeting decided that all major competition games in future would be played on Sunday.

Another major change concerns relegation and promotion: as from 1968 only one club in each division will be promoted and relegated.

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SOCCER IS TEACHING KANGAROOS TO HOP

— By PAUL DEAN —

Nine wins, one draw and seven losses — that is the record so far of the touring Australian Rugby League Kangaroos.

Add to this that they have had five players sent off (Sattler, Mantell, Walters, Kelly and Smith) and that up to half a dozen of them have suffered fractures, not counting the injuries inflicted by them upon their opponents.

Should you still have some illusions left, let us point out some of the opponents of the Kangaroos: teams like Rochdale (pop. 86,000), Castleford (pop. 40,000), Swinton (pop. 15,000), etc.

The two "Tests" have drawn 17,000 and 20,000 respectively while some of the others as "high" as 2000 and 3000.

The entire tour has been confined to three close-lying counties: Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cumberland and the London newspapers have been "devoting" anything up to three or four sentences to the happenings.

AND THIS IN RUGBY LEAGUE WHICH SOME PEOPLE ARE DESPERATELY TRYING TO MAKE US BELIEVE IS A

"WORLD" GAME IN WHICH AUSTRALIA EXCELS.

It's not a world game, of course — and to make it worse, Australia doesn't even excel in it.

NOT IF YOU COMPARE IT WITH THE MAGNIFICENT RECORD OF OUR SOCCER TEAM, THAT IS.

And here we are not only referring to the actual results.

The "Kangaroos", ostensibly a professional bunch administered on official lines, left our shores with 26 players, two managers and a masseur.

No doctor, no coach; these are not for our he-men.

Even the masseur is an innovation; on the previous tour the team didn't take any but co-opted the services of the now dead Bill Hunter who went to England privately.

And in the 1959-60 tour, the manager had to act as masseur...

How about the coach? Well, the Kangaroos were "coached" by their player-

The comments of a Sydney afternoon newspaper's sporting editor regarding the Australian touring team will certainly interest your readers.

Last week, to settle a bet at work, I telephoned the sporting editor in question and asked him whether any other Australian touring football team had ever achieved a 100 per cent record.

His first words, and I quote textually, were: "Any comparison would be odious".

And he continued: "Rugby League tourists play against the best teams in France and England, and the Rugby Union Wallabies have to meet the world's best".

He went on to say that the Australian soccer team had only played against small fry and that little significance could be attached to their results, however brilliant.

I naturally disagree entirely and would appreciate your thoughts on the matter as I find it difficult to express myself coherently on the subject.

L.W. LINTON, Maroubra.

captain Reg Gasnier; his arguments about team selections with his assistant coach-captain John Raper filled the pages of Sydney papers a few weeks ago.

Do compare this, if you will, with soccer: one full-time coach with the team, acting as sole selector.

Now, the results. In soccer we played several international teams, all of whom regard and treat soccer as their national game.

We beat them at it — 10 wins out of 10 matches.

Rugby League in England is NOT a national game — I would say even greyhound racing, archery and tossing the caber ranks ahead.

Yet our "brilliant" and over-publicised "Kangaroos" managed to lose to such "giants" as the village teams of Wigan or Castleford and draw with the "mighty" Barrow (population 64,000).

Yes, dear Mr. Linton, the Sporting Editor of that newspaper was darned right: comparisons ARE odious.

He ought to know...

While gladly admitting that for a change soccer DID get very fair and favorable publicity during the recent Asian tour, we still claim that during any given HOME SEASON Sydney newspapers lean over backwards to inflate the standard, popularity and importance of Rugby League to the detriment of soccer.

In the 10 matches not one Australian player was sent off; not one — or our opponents — suffered any serious injury.

There were no stupid, lengthy arguments about the Australian and the Asian "interpretation" of rules; no vivid hotel-room scenes between Warren, Micic and Vlasis about selections; no complaints that there were no welcoming committees; poor travel arrangements and such.

These, happily, are Rugby League specialities.

■ SECOND DIV. REVIEW

Manly hope to keep pace

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

Manly's rise from the Amateur Division to First Division in one big leap is a remarkable success unequalled in Federation history.

The team, composed mainly of local youngsters, was well drilled and coached by Denis Adrigan, whose knowledge of the game played a big part in Manly winning top honors last season.

Throughout the 1967 season, Manly have played a brand of soccer that was fast, entertaining and cleverly executed.

The side was swift and precise and before the opposition could think of defensive measures to block it, they found themselves in trouble.

This fine achievement was undoubtedly due to the constant use of the "wing system" where all the side's attacks were entirely schemed from the wings.

In Colin Waller and Bobby Jones, Manly possessed the best two winners in Second Division who, together with the accurate shooting of Jimmy Hughes and Greg Jones, combined in a very effective forward line.

In defence, Neil Campbell was a tower of strength at centre-half and his wing halves Verrills and Freeman were tireless both in defence and attack.

Spectacular goalie

Goalkeeper Tuinman also proved to be a great asset to Manly as on many occasions during the season was called upon to perform some spectacular saves.

To mould together a bunch of local individuals into a team that could present one joint effort so effectively must have created a lot of headaches for coach Adrigan during its process.

However, seeing it click to near perfection must make him feel proud and satisfied with the result.

Under Adrigan's guidance, this team was able to finish in third place in the

1965 competition of the Federation Amateur First Division but a notable feature was the selection of six players in the NSW XI toured New Caledonia, including captain Neil Campbell.

In the following year, Manly finished runners up to Marconi and owing to the increase in the senior division gained promotion to Second Division for 1967.

Stiff challenge

After a rather unimpressive start and with very little alteration to the original team, Manly acclimatised themselves against the tougher opposition and went on to win the premiership and the right to play in First Division in 1968.

Now that Manly have accomplished their main ambition, it is confidently predicted that 1968 will not prove a repetition of their earlier adventure in the premier ranks.

How successful the team would be against the First Division giants remains to be seen, but there is one thing sure: 1968 will give Manly its stiffest challenge and both players and officials are very much aware of it.

However, the organisation and enthusiasm of the players is far greater than ever before and Manly is determined that the team that take the field next season would be essentially the same youthful, fit and enthusiastic group of local players that has won the side promotion.

Officials and supporters have high hopes for this side and with intensified training, it may develop into a combination that could surprise some of the teams in this higher division during 1968.

PEEVED THOUGH NOT INSULTED

Perth complaint

In your Editorial (17/11/67) "Merdeka is now a must", there is no mention of Western Australia.

For the past three years Malaysia has invited Australia to take part in the Merdeka Tournament.

Our President, Julius Re, who is a member of the executive, tried his best to get Australia to accept this invitation without success.

This year with the sanction of the ASF he sent a Western Australian side to Merdeka and we did very well.

Western Australia spent \$7000 in sending their team and because of their enthusiasm and the goodwill they established, Australia was invited to Saigon, an invitation that was extended to Western Australia first.

To compete in the Merdeka Tournament is by invitation, not application.

The president of the Malaysian Soccer Association, who is also the Prime Minister, stated at a public meeting that Western Australia would be invited next year; there was no mention of Australia.

The soccer fans of WA are already working and looking forward to their return visit to Malaysia and I would say at this stage that if you try to force them out Australian soccer will suffer again.

Your paper gave very little space to Western Australia's visit to Malaysia and very little praise to the work that our president Julius Re did there in opening the Asian gateway for Australian soccer.

You call your paper "The Voice of Australian Soccer"? I do hope you will print this.

B. FRAZER, BAYSWATER, WA.

* * *

We are not trying to "force" anybody out of the Merdeka; we are trying to induce Australia in. And we are doing this precisely because we do regard ourselves as the

READERS' LETTERS

voice of Australian soccer, not just of WA, NSW or any other State.

The immense benefits of an Australian team possibly winning the Merdeka certainly overshadow the brave efforts of any State merely taking part.

This difference must be obvious enough to any partisan State fan.

As for us not recognising Western Australia's achievements — Mr. B. Frazer could not have been our reader for very long.

We not only covered their tour and all their matches — but at the end held them up as examples to be followed, in a special front page story. And if Mr. B. Frazer takes the trouble to find out — Julius Re will be the first to acknowledge this. (Ed.)

We're blushing...

SOCCER WORLD has again excelled itself.

Your coverage of the Saigon National Day Tournament was first class.

Please convey to Martin Royal my congratulations for a wonderful coverage in depth.

SOCCER WORLD, a wonderful publication any time, really excels when it comes to covering overseas events.

Your Cambodian coverage, World Cup reports from Britain, and now the 1967 Asian tour, were real eye-openers.

I subscribe to a few overseas sporting publications — Austrian, English, German — and I can safely say that SOCCER WORLD is in precisely the same class.

Actually, I am prompted to write that you are in fact far too polished a publication for Australian consumption.

I am, and have for years, surprised that the powers that be in local soccer do not know a good thing when they see one and pounce on

the opportunity of using SOCCER WORLD and its staff as a media to propagate soccer in Sydney and Australia.

Please accept my heartfelt appreciation for a job consistently well done.

May your paper prosper, and may soccer prosper along with it.

The Australian team's great success on tour will certainly contribute to the sport's increased standing and well being.

HENRY GROTHKIND, ST. MARYS.

NEXT WEDNESDAY AT 8.15 P.M.

Slavia's galaxy of stars for Sydney

Two of Europe's most highly rated players will turn out for Slavia Prague when the Czechoslovakian visitors meet a combined Prague-Pan Hellenic XI at the Marks Field next Wednesday evening.

They are right fullback Jan Lala and winger Frantisek Vesely.

Lala, 29, is the regular fullback of the Czechoslovakian national team and he is regarded as one of the world's top defenders.

Vesely, 24, a right winger, had a meteoric rise from junior ranks and rates today as one of Europe's most dangerous wingers.

Another two "A" internationals are in the touring party: left back Bohumil Smolik, 24, and halfback, Karel Knesl, 25.

"B" internationals with Slavia include centre-half George Hildebrandt, 34, goalkeeper Josef Ledecsky,

25, and centre-forward Karel Nepomucky, 27.

Several Olympic and Youth internationals also feature prominently in their team.

Formed in 1892 as a literary association, a sports section was added to Slavia in 1893.

Slavia's first soccer match took place in 1896, and their first international match was played against a Berlin XI on January 8, 1899.

Slavia have won 13 First Division championships — more than any other Czechoslovakian club.

In 1938, they won the Mitropa Cup — forerunner of today's European Cup —

and in 1934 when Czechoslovakia reached the final of the World Cup, they supplied eight players to the national team, including the legendary goalkeeper Planicka and Stefan Cambal, Prague's coach in 1965 and 1966.

Slavia is an omni-sports club. In addition to soccer they cater for 14 other sports.

Slavia is the sixth overseas club Prague has presented to the Australian public since 1964.

Prague pioneered international club soccer in Australia by bringing out previously FC Basel, VfB Stuttgart, Sing Tao, Slovan Bratislava and Spartak Prague.

Slavia arrives in Sydney from Christchurch, New Zealand, next Tuesday, December 5, at 6 p.m.

They leave Sydney next Thursday for matches in Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth.

Their Sydney match next Wednesday kicks-off at 8.15 p.m.

There will be an early game at Marks Field at 7 p.m. between the under-16 teams of Prague and Pan Hellenic.

The combined Sydney team's line-up is expected to be: King; Johnston, Harcombe; Blacker, Donnias, Westwater, Blitz (Armytage), Manuel, Karyannis, Scheinflug, Gauto.

ASIAN CONQUEST SHOULD PUT US INTO HIGHER ORBIT

— By the Editors of "Soccer World" —

A hero's welcome — that's what they deserved and that's what they got.

The victorious Australian soccer team, back from its Asian tour, speeding through Asia in 22 days, played and won 10 matches, registering this country's most significant international triumph.

Many, including this very newspaper, were openly critical of the team's abridged preparations and even some of the selections.

We were genuinely worried that the one week Sydney camp — despite its excellence — wouldn't be long enough; that acclimatisation would present an almost insurmountable problem; that the team was taking away far too many young, untried "greenhorns".

While nobody will deny that it should be possible to prepare even more thoroughly, the team's outstanding results speak for themselves.

And nobody is happier than us.

For this remarkable success every member of the Australian party deserves nothing but the highest praise; the managers John Barclay

and Jim Connell, medico Dr. Corrigan, masseur Lou Lazari, coach Joe Vlasits, the players and the Coaches Federation which was responsible for the original selections.

The success of the team in Asia must have reverberated throughout the soccer world and this puts a new and heavy obligation on Australia: to preserve and expand our newly won reputation.

It is absolutely essential that the Australian Federation begins to formulate, without delay, a continuous national team policy.

We must not relax for one moment; we cannot afford to rest on our Asian laurels.

This is the time and opportunity to strike the iron while it is hot — and make a very determined effort to break into world soccer.

It is not detracting one iota from the team's wonderful achievements if we admit candidly what most people know anyway that Singapore is no Brazil, Hong

Kong is no England and South Korea is no Germany, or Hungary — and not even North Korea, where soccer is concerned.

But this should also spur Australia towards loftier aims and new conquests.

APPETISER

The Asian tour was a delectable, exciting appetiser; let's now strive for the main dishes.

This, indeed, is the golden opportunity Australian soccer has been waiting for decades; the Asian success should be the launching pad to place us in orbit.

This team in the space of four weeks has become Australian soccer's hottest piece of property.

Every step must be taken to preserve it as the showpiece of Australian soccer.

Soccer at this stage has little else to offer in the way of national image.

It is imperative that the flames of unprecedented public interest which swept Sydney as the Saigon victory roll mounted not be allowed to die out.

Exposure and further successes are essential, not later, but NOW when enthusiasm is still alive.

That enthusiasm and pride at the Australian team's achievements exist are abundantly evident.

The mood of the NSW delegates at last week's Annual General Meeting in this regard was clear proof of the impact of the Saigon triumph.

Even the most blasé among our administrators were unable to contain their satisfaction.

The Australian Federation can expect the fullest co-operation from NSW if it sets the wheels of a genuine team policy in motion.

The ball is now clearly at the feet of the ASF.

Empty promises, no immediate action would be nothing short of irresponsible squander.

We recommend as top priority that the ASF call an executive meeting with the sole purpose of outlining a national team policy at once — not in the New Year, but within days.

The following are a must if the benefits reaped from the tour are to be exploited intelligently:

1) Joe Vlasits to be confirmed as national team coach.

His only tasks should be to perfect the existing squad and prospect for additional players.

2) The appointment of a permanent tour manager-cum P.R.

An official who will implement the executive's national team policy, liaison and "sell" the national team to the public at large.

3) National team members must be called together at least once a month for a four-day period, say from Monday to Thursday, at the start or the end of every month.

The team spirit and mateship developed on tour must be kept alive and strengthened.

4) The national squad's monthly "camp" should be conducted in all capital cities on a rotation basis.

Every State in the Commonwealth must be made to feel this is their team. Every-

one must have the opportunity to identify with it. This will create the feeling that the national team belongs to the whole of Australia, not just Sydney and, to a lesser degree, Melbourne.

MORE MATCHES

5) No opportunity must be bypassed to pit the national team against overseas opponents. They have to play against any team touring Australia — without, if you like, using the name "Australia".

We opposed once the idea of matches between Australia and visiting club sides, but the circumstances are now vastly different.

In the past these matches served no purpose.

Now they do as it is important the Australian team gains as much international experience as possible and follow the example of most European national sides who often meet club teams in "warm-up" matches to experiment with players, try out new tactics, etc.

That's exactly what our team should do: get all the international experience it can before entering competitive events like Merdeka and Saigon Tournaments and the World Cup elimination rounds.

6) Regular internationals, both at home and abroad, against Asian countries.

As this tour proved, Australia can measure up to the best in Asia. We must exploit our potential in this area to the fullest before we are ready to move up the international ladder against more highly rated European or South American nations.

In the meantime, our immediate future lies in developing the closest links with our Asian neighbours.

Australia cannot afford to sneeze at any success that may come our way. Every victory is good to take and should be accepted gratefully. It wasn't that long ago that India trounced Australia to the tune of 7-1 in Sydney...

Only when, and if, these conditions are fulfilled will Australian soccer truly come of age.

Link with sweet home

Everybody in the Australian party was thankful to SOCCER WORLD for sending regular copies of this newspaper as well as other Press cuttings.

For some weeks these were our only contacts with the outside world as all the other mail was somehow held up.

— M.R.

NIGHT AND DAY ON 2GB

The only jarring note of the entire tour was the unhappy flight arrangement.

The Australian team was half a day late leaving Sydney for Saigon because of changed Qantas flight schedules.

While on tour, they were delayed in Djakarta for another half day because of a mix-up.

And on the last leg home, yet another hitch occurred in the Qantas flight which was delayed starting in London.

To add to the turmoil of conflicting arrival time reports, last Tuesday morning 2GB made a complete mess of things.

At 6 a.m. a casual, chit-chatting announcer informed us that the "plane carrying the Australian soccer team is late; instead of arriving this morning at 6.30 they will now land at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning."

Five minutes later the same announcer apologised for his mistake and told us that he was "misled;" the "plane is actually due at 10 a.m. today."

Finally, on third try, he succeeded; prompted by a number of phone calls to the station, he came on the air with yet another correction announcing that the "team would arrive NOT at 9 in the morning but at 10 in the evening."

We knew he'd get it right in the end...

NSW'S NEW EXECUTIVE

The NSW Federation's annual general meeting last week elected a new, five-man Executive Committee.

They are: Jim Bayutti, Frank Parsons, Arthur George, John Thomson and Tom Grimson.

Later the Executive elected Bayutti president with Parsons and George vice-presidents.

They will hold office for two years — the longest projected term in Federation history.

The Executive will be able to operate without constant interference from the Council.

The regular monthly Council meetings will be abolished; meetings now will be held only a few times a year.

The post of treasurer has not been filled.

The Executive may decide to appoint a non-member to hold this post.

Several sub-committees will be formed within the next few weeks.

The majority of men for these will be invited from clubs.

Now turn to page 8 and read Jim Bayutti's article.

WE'LL EAT THIS HUMBLE, TASTY PUDDING

At the reception in honor of the Australian team before their departure from Sydney, co-manager John Barclay made a brief speech.

While not promising results, he guaranteed a wholehearted effort.

He concluded his speech by saying: "The proof of the pudding is in the eating."

And nobody is more delighted than this newspaper that the pudding, despite some fears expressed by us, turned out to be such a splendid success...

FRESH HOPES FOR TWO MAJOR CITY GROUNDS

— By ALAN SPEERS —

Sydney's paucity of top class soccer facilities, particularly from the spectators' point of view, may be improved before the start of the 1968 season.

At long last, local officialdom is willing to listen to approaches by soccer authorities to improve amenities at the Marks Field.

Lack of any covering at the ground has long been a source of concern to officials, not to mention soccer fans, forced to shiver on the unprotected terraces.

In the past, all attempts by the NSW Federation to influence the now defunct Sydney City Council to build a stand have fallen on deaf ears.

Each time, the answer has amounted to: "If you want a stand, pay for it yourself."

This week, however, Mr. Vernon Treatt, who heads the new City Commission appointed to administer Sydney, gave rise to hope any new approach by soccer would be treated sympathetically.

Mr. Treatt, a former leader of the State Opposition, in a brief statement to SOCCER WORLD, said: "Any proposals put forward by the soccer authorities will receive every consideration possible."

Which suggests that the time is right for a move by Federation officials.

Whatever the outcome of any future discussions between soccer and the Commissioners, it is certain that spectators will be better treated next year at Wentworth Park — the other inner-city football ground in Sydney.

Home of Hakoah and Pan Hellenic, Wentworth Park soon will undergo an extensive "facelift."

Plans have been completed for the construction of a new \$200,000 stand, and another, smaller one.

Together they should comfortably hold about 1,500 soccer fans.

The money, a little surprisingly, is coming from the National Coursing Association, which conducts about 30 greyhound race meetings at Wentworth Park each year.

The NCA, of course, is in the happy position of receiving an annual "windfall" from the fairy godmother of all NSW racing clubs, the TAB, and it is largely this revenue which will finance the building of the new stands.

The manager of Wentworth Park, "Paddy" Gray, after whom the members' stand is named, said this week he was hopeful that the smaller of the two new stands would be completed in time for the new soccer season.

"Though the NCA is building the \$200,000 stand, and the smaller one, for the convenience of greyhound followers, they will be both public stands open to soccer fans," Mr. Gray said.

Both stands will be sited on the city side of Wentworth Park; the larger one at a point directly in front of the semaphore tower, the smaller alongside the members' stand.

Apart from the ambitious development plans of the NCA, the Wentworth Park trust is spending a considerable sum on installation of new floodlighting outside the ground.

This area is used six nights weekly by various sporting teams for training, including St. George-Budapest and Yugal.

Workers this week started installing the new floodlights, mounted on a 100 ft. stanchion, and said to be much more effective than those previously in use.

The Wentworth Park Trust has also spent \$6,000 on providing a new hot water system for two dressing rooms, used by players after training sessions.

The system is expected to be in operation shortly.

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WE WERE HUNTING OUT OF MALAYAN SEASON...

— By MARTIN ROYAL —

Having watched Australian soccer struggle for many years, I am delighted to have had the opportunity of seeing the birth of a truly strong national side.

We have the nucleus of a potentially fine team that can take part in the World Cup elimination games; the skill and dedication of such players as Schaefer, Abonyi, Baartz, Vojtek, Warren, Westwater, Ackerley, plus the others, is a promise of a very bright future.

After the last match, which clinched us our 10-out-of-10 record, manager John Barclay sighed with relief.

"If I say I am pleased this is the understatement of the century," he said, embracing all his players.

"The most incredible team achievement in Australian football — any code," said his co-manager Jim Connell.

Comparing the 1965 team with this one, skipper John Warren said:

"Without any reflection on anybody, this team was superior in skill, determination and spirit."

Team effort

This, indeed, was a team effort in which even the camp followers took an active part.

Dr. Corrigan, Qantas man Tom Patrick and the three Press boys all did their best to build morale or do little chores even down to the "exciting" task of squeezing oranges and help prepare sustogen before the games.

The reserves all acted as so many extra trainers during any given match.

Sitting on the bench and rooting for the team, they also helped to untie bootlaces of weary players after the match, chuck in an extra chewing gum — any little thing that seemed to mean a lot at that moment.

Stan Ackerley said, "This has been my most exciting trip with any representative team ever."

"I personally never felt fitter."

"We had a great bunch of lads, all 100-minute players and young enough to play for Australia for years yet."

Both Warren and Ackerley, men who can make comparisons, claim that North Korea are stronger than South, especially in front of the goal.

In fact, John Warren rates even South Vietnam ahead of the South Koreans.

Apathy

The apathy of Singapore and Malaysia towards our team was stunning.

I am certain that no more than 200 spectators were scattered at the Jalan Besar stadium watching Australia play the Combined Services team.

The local press can take much of the blame for this: they devoted much more space to the English soccer results and the doings of Australian cricket than to the local soccer match.

The same applied to Kuala Lumpur where neither of the two large English-language newspapers, "Eastern Sun" and "Straits Times" bothered to write about the match, apart from a few hidden paragraphs.

When we arrived at the stadium on Saturday evening for the scheduled match, near darkness and complete eerie silence awaited us.

When we rounded up some Malaysian officials and politely inquired what had happened to our match, we were told that the president of the Football Association, (Tungku Abdul Rahman) had simply called it off.

John Barclay was furious, on the point of explosion — but it was no help: all we received was the usual, bland Asian treatment with a "sorry" here and there.

Ostensibly, the reason for the postponement was Sat-



JOE VLASITS, coach of the Australian team

urday's heavy rain and a fear that attendances would be hard hit.

However, further rain fell during the night and Sunday morning — and when we finally took to the ground, it was soggy than ever before.

Stan Ackerley was team's "iron man"

● Stan Ackerley, the iron man of the team, played for the full 90 minutes in all 10 matches.

On the 1965 tour, the APIA fullback chalked up six appearances from eight games.

● Bill Vojtek and Alan Westwater also played in all matches.

Neither, however, was on the field for the entire duration of every game.

Vojtek only played in the last 20 minutes against the Indonesian League XI and the last half hour against Singapore.

Westwater missed a half against Singapore and the Djakarta XI.

● John Watkiss, present in every match of the 1965

To make things worse, none of the local papers bothered to inform their readers of the Saturday postponement — so nobody knew that the match would be played on Sunday.

There were three contributing factors to the fiasco.

The first — and perhaps the biggest — was the muddled local amateur organisation.

The second was the abysmal standard of local reporting; editors obviously prefer overseas cable coverage to local news.

And the third was that, according to some officials, our visit was "out of season."

Both Singapore and Kuala Lumpur claim that this is their rugby season with soccer dormant until February.

By the way, Singapore is planning a huge sports complex with a marvellous new stadium — something that will surpass even Djakarta's wonder.

However, after our dismal experience in Singapore I wonder how they intend to fill it?

Goal avalanche came at the end

— By MARTIN ROYAL —

Singapore and Malaysia proved a successful hunting ground for the Australian team which bagged 12 goals in the last two games of the tour.

Last Thursday week the Australians thrashed the Singapore-based Combined Services XI 8-1, and last Sunday, after a 24-hour postponement, defeated Malaysia 4-0 to wind up their unbeaten record-shattering tour.

The two-match summary:

Singapore

v. Combined Services 8-1

The Combined Services team provided sub-standard opposition for the Australians who treated the game as a practice session before the last match of the tour against Malaysia.

The Services side comprised mostly of former English amateur players.

Australia led 3-0 at half-time and completed the rout with another five goals after the interval.

The Services' lone goal was the result of an elementary interception error by the ball-starved Romanowicz, who saw so little of the play that he was unable to warm up or get the feel of the ball.

Australia's scorers in the first half were Schaefer in

the 10th minute from long range; Westwater in the 33rd from a direct free-kick, and Vojtek in the 35th minute.

In the 49th minute Richards made it 4-0, seven minutes later Vojtek scored with a booming drive and McColl chalked up number six in the 63rd minute with the best goal of the match, his chipped shot swerving away to the goalie's left.

Abonyi, who until then had been very unlucky with his shots, delivered the coup de grace with two goals in quick succession in the 78th and 80th minutes.

How Australia lined up: Romanowicz; Wilkins, Ackerley; Micic, Van Alphen (Schaefer), Lloyd; Vojtek, Abonyi, Richards, Westwater, De Lyster (McColl).

Kuala Lumpur

v. Malaysia 4-0

Australia was off to a bright start when after four minutes Ray Baartz dashed down the left wing and hit a tremendous shot at goal.

The Malaysian goalie, Lee Soo Phang, was unable to hold the Hakoah star's hard angled drive and the oncoming McColl only had to tap the ball into the net to open Australia's account.

Australia in the next half hour lost the midfield advantage to the nippy Malaysian inside-forwards, including Tanalban, the talented inside-right who is regarded as the first choice in any Malaysian team, but who was unable to go to Saigon because of exams.

Australia experienced an uncomfortable period midway through the first half, but Van Alphen was very safe and calm — easily the best defender on the field.

Australia, against the run of play, went to a 2-0 lead in the 28th minute.

Vojtek cutting in cleverly from the left, fired a 35-yard scorcher for a truly magnificent goal.

Just before halftime, Australia regained the initiative and soon after the interval Malaysia conceded their third goal.

A hot drive by the effervescent Vojtek was deflected by centre-half Voon Huang past the Malaysian 'keeper — but the credit was all Vojtek's.

Australia, now in full control, pounded the Malaysian goal mercilessly, McColl, Abonyi, Baartz and Vojtek, all nearly aggravating the score.

With the Malaysian defence at sixes and sevens, it was left to Abonyi, our top goalgetter on the tour, to score the 38th and final goal of the tour.

The goal was a beauty! Westwater weaved his way up the centre, slipped a through pass to Ottie whose 12-yard "curler" drove round Lee Soo Phang.

Gathered in the dressing room for the last time, the Australians burst into loud singing and rejoicing, again led by the irrepressible Westwater.

How Australia lined up: Corry; Keith, Ackerley; Schaefer, Van Alphen, Westwater; McColl, Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek.

ATTILA HEADS LIST OF GOALSCORERS

A total of 175,000 spectators watched Australia's 10 matches on tour.

The largest crowd — 35,000 — was at the former Bung Karno Stadium against the Djakarta XI.

The smallest crowd, as on the 1965 tour, was against Malaysia, when only 500 turned up in the rain for the last match of the tour in Kuala Lumpur.

Australia's scorers on tour were:

Attila Abonyi	13
Billy Vojtek	8
Ray Baartz	4
John Warren	4
Tom McColl	3
Alan Westwater	3
Frank Micic	1
Ray Richards	1
Manfred Schaefer	1

All tour results

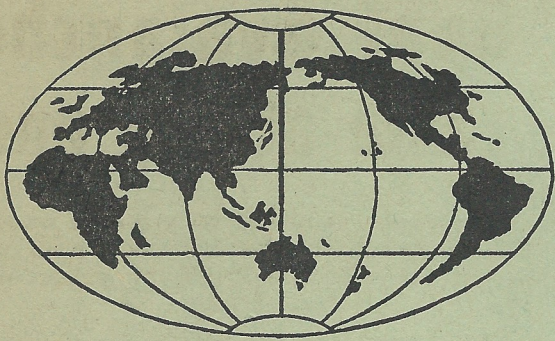
- v. New Zealand 5-3 (Saigon).
- v. South Vietnam 1-0 (Saigon).
- v. Singapore 5-1 (Saigon).
- v. Malaysia 1-0 (Saigon).
- v. South Korea 3-2 (Saigon).
- v. Indonesian XI 2-0 (Djakarta).
- v. Djakarta 3-1 (Djakarta).
- v. Singapore 6-1 (Singapore).
- v. Services XI 8-1 (Singapore).
- v. Malaysia 4-0 (Kuala Lumpur).

	v. New Zealand 5-3	v. South Vietnam 1-0	v. Singapore 5-1	v. Malaysia 1-0	v. South Korea 3-2	v. Indonesian XI* 2-0	v. Djakarta* 3-1	v. Singapore 6-1	v. Comb. Services* 8-1	v. Malaysia 4-0
Romanowicz	GK	GK	GK	GK	GK	GK	GK	GK	GK	GK
Corry										
Keith	RB	RB	RB	RB	RB	RB	RB	RB	RB	RB
Ackerley	LB	LB	LB	LB	LB	LB	LB	LB	LB	LB
Wilkins										
Schaefer	RH	RH	CH	RH	RH	RH	CH	CH(1)	RH	RH
Van Alphen	CH	CH	CH	CH	CH	CH	CH	CH	CH	CH
Westwater	LH	LH	LH(1)	LH	LH	LH	IL	IL(1)	IR(1)	LH
Micic	RH		RH				RH	RH(1)	RH	
Lloyd			LH				LH	LH	LH	
McColl	OL	OL						OL(1)	OL(1)	OR(1)
Abonyi	IR(3)	IR	IR(3)	IR	IR(1)	IR(1)	CF(1)	IR(2)	IR(2)	IR(1)
Warren	CF(1)	CF(1)	CF	CF	CF(1)	CF	CF(1)	CF	CF	CF
Baartz	IL(1)	IL	IL(1)	IL(1)	IL	IL(1)	IL	OL(1)	OR(2)	OL(2)
Vojtek	OR	OR	OL	OL	OL(1)	OL	OR	OL(1)	OR(2)	OL(2)
Richards	OL	OL	OR				IR	CF(1)	CF(1)	
De Lyster						OL	OL	OL	OL	

* Unofficial matches. In brackets: goals.

● Initials in capitals represent the positions filled by players GK: goalkeeper; RB: right back; LB: left back; RH: right half; CH: centre half; LH: left half; OR: outside right; IR: inside right; CF: centre forward; IL: inside left; OL: outside left.

● More than eleven names in one column indicates that players were substituted.



ROUND THE WORLD

Roma's bid for Eusebio

Yet another club has bid for Benfica's "black panther." Latest team anxious to snap up Eusebio is AS Roma. The Roman president, Dr. Franco Evangelisti, who didn't tour Australia last year, has offered \$850,000 to Benfica for their star player. Evangelisti is also prepared to pay Eusebio a \$100,000 signing-on fee and a yearly guarantee of \$60,000 for a three-year contract. Benfica, however, won't hear of parting with their greatest money-spinner. Roma's offer is surprising because of the Italian FA's ban on foreign imports.

War and peace — Scottish style

Celtic's president, Bob Kelly, has come up with a novel suggestion to put an end to the perennial violence when Celtic and Rangers meet. His suggestion: that only card-carrying Rangers supporters be admitted to Ibrox Park when the teams meet, and vice-versa when Celtic entertains Rangers. Kelly said his club was prepared to forego big gates against Rangers to stamp out the open warfare whenever the bitter rivals clash. Kelly is also prepared to forfeit four points to Rangers to avoid meeting them. Two years ago Kelly had suggested that the First Division be divided in two groups to ensure both clubs never met. Indications are, however, that Celtic and Rangers will be clashing — on and off the field — for many more years . . .

Unlucky 13th round

Three European competition leaders lost their unbeaten records a fortnight ago. In Poland, Ruch suffered their first loss in 13 rounds when beaten 1-4 by Gornik Zabrze. The defeat deprived them of the unofficial title of "autumn champions," which went to Legia Warsaw, who ended the halfway mark in First Division with a one-point lead over Ruch. In West Germany, FC Nurnberg also lost their invincibility in the unlucky 13th round. They lost 1-2 at Duisburg, but still lead the Bundesliga. And in Hungary, Ferencvaros lost 3-2 to Csepel in the second last round.

Greener pastures for Docherty?

Tom Docherty's shock appointment with lowly, unfashionable Second Division Rotherham has stunned English soccer circles. As Docherty did not sign a contract it appears as though the stormy "Doc" only considers the Rotherham job as a stop-gap until something bigger comes along. Many clubs, in Britain and abroad, having already manifested themselves, there is every indication Docherty will move to greener pastures next May. No one in Britain believes Rotherham could possibly have guaranteed Docherty better terms than Panathinaikos of Athens, whose offer he rejected last month.



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2KY ITALIAN MELODIES 2KY
Every Thursday 6.15 p.m.

The one bright spot amidst all the violence and unruliness now associated with British soccer is the exemplary behaviour of Nottingham Forest. Forest, one of the world's oldest clubs — they were formed in 1865 — have not had a player sent off since 1929! A survey by the SUNDAY TIMES revealed two weeks ago that since the end of World War II referees in England alone had sent off 2,965 players, nearly half of them in the last seven years.

● Czechoslovakia, the hot favorites, were edged out by the holders, Spain, in Group I of the European Championship eliminations when they lost 1-2 to Eire at home last week.

● Nine players in Curacao (Dutch West Indies) received life suspensions for bashing a referee in a recent local relegation play-off match.

● Penarol, the 1966 Intercontinental Cup winners, will probably sign Argentinian international defender, Albrecht, who was sent off against West Germany in the 1966 World Cup.

● Celtic have barred their players from making press statements regarding the stormy Intercontinental Cup play-offs in South America.

● Sivori and Bulgarelli have both recovered from cartilage operations and are expected to play again soon. Napoli and Bologna are waiting impatiently for the return of their star forwards.

● The testimonial match between Atletico Madrid and Benfica for Atletico's fullback, Griffa, was a big financial success and enabled the Spanish club to hand over a \$14,000 cheque to their long-serving player.

● Since the start of the season, an average of 1.62 goals per match has been scored in Italy. The English average is 3.63, the French 2.90 and the Dutch 3.95.

● English statistics show that 650 managers have been sacked since the end of the war: an average of 29 a year.

● Savoldi, Atalanta's 21-year-old centre-forward, is the new leading Italian Division I goalscorer. Juventus, AS Roma and Inter Milan have offered up to \$300,000 for him, but as he is Atalanta's only class player there's no chance of his air-tight contract being broken until 1968.

● Maurice Bunyan, an Englishman who played a major part in popularising soccer in France at the turn of the century, died in England last week. Bunyan coached five French clubs between 1908 and 1921 and produced many blueprints which streamlined club administration in France.

● Elek Schwartz, Eintracht Frankfurt's coach, may be axed at the end of the season. Schwartz has been accused of employing tactics totally unsuited to the German temperament because he insists on using the methods which were successful with Benfica in the past.

● Otto Bumbel, the Austro-Spanish coach, has taken over Malaga, the First Division Spanish club, whose former coach, Ernesto Pons, moves to Canada to join a Toronto club.

● Aimore Moreira, the famous Brazilian coach, has signed a five-year contract with Flamengo. This is the longest-term coaching contract ever signed by any South American manager.

● Boca Juniors, the crack Buenos Aires club, have also a new manager. He is youthful Bernardo Gandolo. He replaces Adolfo Pedernera, one of the greatest Argentinian players of all time.

● Benfica have bought Mozambique's greatest talent — centre forward, Abel — for \$38,000. Abel was born only two streets away from Eusebio's birth place, and is tipped to be another Eusebio in the making.

● Grobety, the long-serving Swiss international, will retire at the end of the current season. Grobety, also a top skier, will open a hotel at the mountain resort of Ovronnaz, in the Valais canton, next winter.

● Eintracht Braunschweig, the 1966-67 West German champions, will play three matches in Mexico in December during the Bundesliga's winter pause.

● Eintracht Frankfurt will also tour Central America this month. They will play in Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras and San Salvador. Last winter Eintracht undertook a six-week Asian tour.

Austrians warned

The UEFA has warned the Austrian FA that any repetition of the recent disturbance at the Austria v. Greece match will lead to a five-year ban on the Prater Stadion for all European competition fixtures. The famous ground had been involved twice previously already in riotous scenes (FK Austria v. Reims in 1960, and Rapid-Benfica in 1962).

Czechoslovakia

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Inter rumors abound

Zlatko Cajkovski, Bayern Munchen's Yugoslav coach, is leaving them at the end of the season. It is rumored that he may replace Helenio Herrera next year if Inter Milan have another disappointing season. Cajkovski was one of the world's greatest halfbacks in the late 1940's and early 1950's. Cajkovski had a spell as Israeli national team coach before making a big name for himself in West Germany. Herrera's future is causing plenty of speculation at the moment. All Italy was agog two weeks ago when HH made a secret two-day visit to Paris to meet officials of Paris Red Star, the club Herrera had coached 19 years ago.

Another Turkish tragedy

There was another savage riot in Turkey two weeks ago — only two months after the Kaiseri tragedy which killed 42 soccer fans. This time police had to fire on 2,000 spectators at Inegol, a small town 85 miles from Istanbul, who attacked a referee for disallowing a goal. Many people received bullet wounds or were trampled, but no deaths were reported. Police made 456 arrests and closed Inegol's ground for four seasons.

European Cup moves east

This week an international club competition match was played in Asia for the first time. Tashkent, the capital of the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan, was the venue on Wednesday for the European Cupwinners' Cup match between Torpedo Moscow and Spartak Trnava of Czechoslovakia. Torpedo transferred the match to Tashkent to get away from the icy Moscow winter.

"Father" of Bundesliga dies

Franz Kremer, FC Koln's president, died from a heart attack 10 days ago while listening to a radio broadcast of his club's win over Eintracht Frankfurt. The late Kremer was the originator of the fabulously successful Bundesliga (national league). He was one of the first German officials to back the project and he set out a blueprint as early as 1950 — 12 years before the national league was implemented.

SCOREBOARD

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Bulgaria v. Portugal 1-0; England v. Nth. Ireland 2-0; Scotland v. Wales 3-2; Czechoslovakia v. Eire 1-2; Belgium v. Luxembourg 3-0.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Rumania v. West Germany 1-0.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Dynamo Kiev v. Gornik Zabrze 1-2.

EUROPEAN CUPWINNERS' CUP: Gyor v. AC Milan 2-2.

FAIR CITIES' CUP: Napoli v. Hibernians 4-1; Goetzepe Izmir v. Atletico Madrid 3-0; Lokomotiv Leipzig v. Vojvodina 0-2; Dinamo Zagreb v. Bologna 1-2.

MITROPA CUP: Inter Bratislava (Czechoslovakia) v. Tatabanya (Hungary) 7-0. (First leg 1-3).

BELGIUM: Bruges v. Beeringen 3-1; Daring v. Beerschot 2-0; Malines v. FC Liege 3-1; Beveren Waas v. Anderlecht 1-2; Antwerp v. Racing White 0-2; Standard Liege v. Sporting Charleroi 3-2; Olympic Charleroi v. Waregem 1-0; St. Trond v. Lierse 4-0.

FRANCE: Nantes v. Sedan 1-1; Nice v. Lyon 0-3; Rouen v. Lille 1-0; Bordeaux v. Sochaux 3-0; Red Star v. Angers 3-3; Aix v. Rennes 2-3; Strasbourg v. Marseille 1-0; Lens v. Monaco 1-3; Valenciennes v. Ajaccio 0-0; St. Etienne v. Metz 4-0.

GREECE: PAOK v. Olympiakos Piraeus 1-0; Ethnikos

v. Appollon 1-1; Veria v. Vyzas 3-2; Paneleftiniakos v. Panionios 1-0; Prodeftiki v. Heraklis 2-1; Volou v. Pierikos 1-1; Egaleo v. Panseirakos 2-1; AEK v. Olympiakos Cyprus (postponed).

HOLLAND: Sittardia v. DWS 0-1; MVV v. Volendam 0-0; Twente v. Feyenord 1-2; PSV v. DOS 1-1; Xerxes v. Telstar 3-0; Sparta v. Go Ahead 1-1; NEC v. ADO 1-0; Ajax v. Fortuna 7-1; NAC v. GVAV 0-0.

ITALY: Atalanta v. Brescia 1-3; Bologna v. Napoli 1-2; Inter Milan v. Spal 2-0; Juventus v. Fiorentina 2-2; Vicenza v. AC Milan 2-2; Mantova v. Torino 0-0; Sampdoria v. Cagliari 1-1; Varese v. Roma 2-0.

SPAIN: Zaragoza v. Atletico Madrid 1-1; Sevilla v. Betis 2-3; Espanol v. Bilbao 1-1; San Sebastian v. Valencia 2-0; Malaga v. Sabadell 1-3; Pontevedra v. Elche 1-0; Real Madrid v. Cordoba 4-0; Las Palmas v. Barcelona 4-1.

SWITZERLAND: Bellinzona v. Lugano 0-2; Biennes v. Young Fellows 1-0; Chaude-Fonds v. FC Zurich 1-1; Grasshoppers v. Basel 1-1; Servette Geneva v. Lucerne 3-4; Sion v. Lausanne 0-0; Young Boys v. Granges 2-1.

YUGOSLAVIA: Partizan v. Velez 2-1; Radnicki v. Red Star Belgrade 0-1; Sarajevo v. Hajduk 4-2; Maribor v. Olimpija 0-0; OFK Belgrade v. Zeljeznicar 0-2; Zagreb v. Vardar 3-1; Proleter v. Dinamo Zagreb 2-1; Rijeka v. Vojvodina 1-1.



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MELB. HUNGARIA REAP TOP VICTORIAN HONORS

— From BOB LOW in Melbourne —

Without going into raptures yet at the same time giving credit where it's due, Melbourne soccer unquestionably made progress in 1967.

The playing angle brought our biggest successes when Melbourne HSC stopped the mighty APIA in their tracks and deservedly beat the top Sydney side in the final of the Australia Cup.

The outstanding performances of our five representatives with the Australian team in the Saigon tournament and also in the rest of their tour was a real shot-in-the-arm for Victorian soccer.

In most other aspects of the game — administration, grounds, referees, crowd behaviour and publicity — some advancement was made.

But there's no room for complacency as considerable improvement is still needed to put the game on a solid basis.

This is how I saw Melbourne soccer in 1967:

Abonyi's year

Team of the year: Undoubtedly Melbourne HSC who won the State League title and the Australia Cup. With the exception of Gerard Grenouille who made only a few fleeting appearances and who is now the subject of a registration wrangle with Dandenong, the Melbourne club didn't spend a cent on imports or local buys in 1967.

Outstanding player of 1967: No room at the inn for argument on this score: as dual top scorer in the State League with Tony Hughes of JUST, Attila Abonyi also carved his name as the outstanding player in Australia by finishing up top scorer in the Saigon tournament. This means another halo for Melbourne HSC with whom he plays at inside-forward.

Most improved player: Another Australian team-man, Billy Vojtek, the "will-of-the-wisp" inside and centre-forward of Croatia who has proved his versatility and ability by turning up trumps with the national team in Saigon. Less selfish than in former years, he has lost none of his brilliance as an individualist and proved this by winning

a few games for Croatia almost single-handed. Overlooked by Victoria in 1967, this can only be described as a colossal blunder.

Best clubman: A key-player for Slavia for the past five seasons, Billy Cook who has represented both Victoria and Australia on many occasions was once again the essence of steadiness in the Port Melbourne side's rearguard. Although he has won all the top honors in the game here, never once has Cook, 27, asked for a move to another club.

Greatest loss: Only one top player from Victoria crossed the border into Sydney during 1967 and he proved the biggest loss of the season. I refer to Nigel Shepherd, the Slavia, Victoria and Australian fullback whose enforced move through employment change left a big gap in the Port Melbourne side's defence.

Best prospect: A nomination which will cause controversy — Elysses Kokinos, the teenage South Melbourne Hellas inside or centre-forward who completed his first full season in State League soccer and overshadowed Con Nestorides by finishing up the club's leading scorer. Strong and fast, Kokinos with his quick-fire shooting only requires some steadiness and more experience to climb into the top bracket.

Faithful Micic

Best long-serving player: Frank Micic (Footscray JUST). Eight years as a first team regular with the Footscray side has not aged or wearied the immaculate Micic who is also with the Australian touring side in Asia. Still only 27, Frank in 1967 won his second Argus Medal award.

Unluckiest player of 1967: Bobby McLachlan (Croatia). The former Chelmsford, APIA, Morton, Slavia and Lions full-back and forward who broke his leg near the end of the 1966 league program fell victim to a second leg break while training in

early 1967. Recently made his debut as a comedian-entertainer on TV, using the name of Bobby Mac.

Best referee: David Maintland. An Englishman who has been in Australia three years and who handled the 1966 Australia Cup final with success, he has officiated at both State and international games in 1967 with much credit.

Team of the year: Henri Surma (Melbourne), George Keith (Hakoah), David High (Slavia), Frank Micic (JUST), Dick Van Alphen (Hakoah),

Bob Connelly (Melbourne), Archie Campbell (George Cross), Attila Abonyi (Melbourne), Tony Hughes (JUST), Billy Vojtek (Croatia), Colin Myers (Melbourne).

Top Honors List: Australia Cup: Melbourne HSC. State League title: Melbourne HSC. Dockerty Cup: Slavia. Ampol Cup: Slavia. Harry Armstrong Cup: Slavia. Argus Medal Winner: Frank Micic (JUST). Leading State League Scorers: Attila Abonyi (Melbourne) and Tony Hughes (JUST).

MELBOURNE STOCKTAKING

The last two were the big spenders

Two of the biggest spenders in the State League, Alexander and Makedonia were the two biggest flops in 1967: Alexander, who finished second bottom with Makedonia being relegated were the worse of the pair.

For while Makedonia were in the first season in top company, Alexander have had three bites at the State League and have never even made a token impression.

With a professional urgency on the part of both sides with their mammoth spending sprees, this has really turned into a joke when one considers how amateurish both sets of administrators have been in the past.

And if the VSF or the ASF for that matter ever get around to providing clubs with coaching administration, then priority should be given to this pair who are worthy of consideration in view of the shambles they have performed in the past.

I don't doubt for one minute that those who run both Alexander and Makedonia are sincere in their approach to the game.

I don't question their integrity and I don't dispute that they spend a vast amount of leisure time and probably dip deep into their pockets to keep their clubs in business.

But these attributes and factors alone are not enough among even the best respected men if they have little or soccer "know-how".

Any club without some real stability in their set-up and some real knowledge of the inner workings of the game are not only a liability to themselves but also to the State Federation with whom they are affiliated.

Both Alexander and Makedonia, and particularly Alexander, should realise right now that a fully qualified, paid manager might have brought rich rewards in both the playing and financial sense instead of almost sending them broke labelling them as sides who are only there to make up the number.

Alexander's imports

Formed in 1958 and promoted to the State League in 1964, Alexander's stay in the top division was short-lived. In 22 games they managed

The last in a series of articles highlighting the achievements and prospects of Melbourne's State League clubs by

BOB LOW

to scramble only nine points and took a nose-dive back to the First Division.

However, in a relatively weak First Division they won back their State League status in a season but in 1966 they were once again in dire straits and only by bringing almost half a team from Greece in the closing stages of the State League program did they manage to avoid relegation.

This past season they repeated the performance by bringing five players from Greece when the chips were really down near the end of the season to ensure at least another season in the State League and give Makedonia the embarrassment of going down in their first season.

Over the past three or four seasons Alexander must have spent a small fortune in bringing players temporarily from overseas in sizeable numbers, paying them considerable terms, putting them up in the best quarters and then seeing them depart back to their homeland as soon as the matches have finished and the club has got out of danger.

In addition, Alexander have spent plenty of hard cash, too, on the local market in buying Billy Melvor and Tommy Robertson from Hakoah, John Backovic from JUST, Sam Service from Hellas, Eddie Azzopardi from George Cross, and John Margarites from Hellas.

On the credit side it must be noted that they sold Service to Hellas (Adelaide) and both Robertson and Melvor to George Cross.

With a big potential support, much bigger than many State League clubs, Alexander have no ground to call their own and in 1967 relied on the sympathy of the VSF which permitted them to play most of their home games at Olympic Park.

Alexander could become an asset to the State League but unless they improve their shocking administration and wake up to the fact that last minute overseas transfers are likely to be knocked on the head, their luck will run out and they will be doomed.

Full-time coach will be sought

— From ALLAN CRISP —

The newly formed SA Federation of Coaches would like the post of coaching director to be made a full-time appointment.

WA Hellas coach, Tom Forde, has been part-time SA coaching director for the past two seasons.

The SA Federation of Coaches believes the job is too complex to be handled on a part-time basis.

The coaching body envisages the post as a coach for coaches at all levels.

It would like to see far greater emphasis placed upon the training of schoolboy and junior coaches.

With most of Adelaide's top coaches already committed to clubs, the search for a director will have to be widened to embrace interstate and overseas prospects.

The coaching organisation is receiving the wholehearted support of the SA Federation.

Secretary, Zac Drapac said, "By our combined efforts we hope to bridge the gap that exists between us and the other States."

Two for transfer

Elizabeth City have placed David Hemingway, Ken Warn and Mick Whincup on their transfer list.

The three former first team players all requested transfers.

Hemingway is a forceful mid-field player, Whincup a speedy winger who has been on the State squad training list, and Warn is a former English schoolboy international goalkeeper.

WHISTLE ALONG

How can 65 men do the work of 100?

That's the perplexing problem that the SA Referees' Association will have to solve next year.

The rapid expansion of the Amateur League which plays its matches on Sundays has emphasised the shortage of "whistlers."

As things stand at the moment, there are only 10 Class I referees with 18 Class II men and the remainder Class III or learners.

Association chairman, Ken Candy is appealing for experienced referees or men willing to train as referees.

— Allan Crisp

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ARE BEST

Full co-operation needed for soccer to prosper

By JIM BAYUTTI,
President, NSW Executive Committee

Soccer in NSW may finally face a happier future — it is the task and ambition of the Executive Committee to ensure this.

We cannot promise miracles, only hard work and fair leadership.

However, we are confident that at the end of our two-year tenure we will be able to look back on many positive results.

We don't intend to waste money on useless projects — on the other hand, we will not be tightfisted with schemes and plans that are worth developing.

It is our hope to plan and work towards some degree of professional soccer, similar to the set-up existing in Denmark and Sweden.

We want to give clubs a greater role in creating soccer's new image.

They will have to help us to gain the public's confidence and increase soccer's prestige.

We fervently hope that the era of personality clashes will be over.

We need everybody, regardless of racial and political background, old and new Australians, who want to work for soccer.

There will be no dirty linen washing in the public any more and we will firmly discourage the formation of pressure groups.

From now on the Executive Committee will be the only pressure group — working for the whole of soccer.

Having learned from past mistakes, we intend to broaden the base of soccer's structure in NSW.

Defined duties

We will involve many people in the various sub-committees, performing very specific and clearly defined duties.

For this we are hoping to enlist the best available talent from First and Second Division clubs as well as people not connected with clubs.

It is clear now that licensed clubs can solve many of the financial problems of clubs and we will be happy to help any club within this organisation to succeed in that field.

We hope that any club with a financial problem will feel free to come to us — not simply for aid but for advice and help.

For soccer to prosper we need at least 12 really strong clubs, not just two or three.

Ground improvement is a vital aspect of soccer and we will concentrate much of our energy on this.

We have high hopes that improvements can be effected at Marks Field, Wentworth Park, Arlington Oval and other grounds; that a permanent ground can be found and developed in the St. George district, on the North Shore and in other areas.

Coaching is now recognised as a vital aspect of a nation's soccer development and we intend to give every assistance possible to any genuine coaching program.

The development of technical skill of our future players is entirely in the hands of our coaches, so they deserve every form of help.

One of the first things we will have to re-examine is the Ampol Cup.

There may be ways and means of making it more attractive and even much more lucrative.

We will devote much more attention to the development of country soccer than any other Administration has in the past.

Ties renewed

It is our ambition to bring the country much closer to the city and in order to do it, we will offer aid to the country Associations.

Our traditional ties with Northern NSW which have been somewhat neglected in recent years, will be renewed and strengthened.

We are both in the same State, only 100 miles away from each other, and it is intolerable that the two organisations shouldn't work in the closest harmony.

The various junior and school organisations will also receive our fullest attention.

Good relations have already been established with the Department of Physical Education and their brilliant Director, Mr. Gordon Young and I am confident both they and us can gain from this newly developed relationship.

A priority on our list will be the improvement of all interstate relations, especially with Victoria.

We intend to clear the air of all the old suspicions and resentments and establish fair and honest relations with them.

One of the first actions we will take will be to get together with the Victorian Federation to achieve all this.

We will propose, in a form acceptable to both States, that before the beginning of the 1968 season, if possible, there should be two interstate matches to celebrate the "burying of the hatchets".

We will consider adjusting our 1968 season to fit in with Australia's international commitments.

We intend to find out, without delay, from the ASF what firm plans exist for tours by Australia or teams in Australia, what our World Cup elimination dates may be, etc.

Once we know this, we will be in a position to show a considerable flexibility in drawing up our own season.

Without upsetting the ASF's plans, it is our intention to show more initiative than in the past regarding international soccer.

It is possible that in 1968 we will be able to invite one or more Asian teams to Sydney for brief visits.

Should we succeed, we will not follow a selfish policy but will, whenever possible, gladly invite other States to join us in such ventures.

In the ASF Executive our delegates will be men who can best represent this State.

However, it is not our aim to dictate to other States or to throw our weight about in any way.

We intend to show every respect to the problems and wishes of all other State bodies — and will expect, in turn, the same respect from them.

Our contacts with other sporting organisations, political and civic bodies will have to be broadened and enlarged.

Everything possible will be done to improve soccer's public image and in this the full co-operation of all clubs is essential.

We hope to have good relations with all press media, including the foreign language press of Australia which has been solidly behind us ever since 1957 without ever receiving due recognition.

We can take criticism, advice and suggestions and we won't be touchy; we don't claim infallibility.

What we do ask from the Press is the traditional Australian "fair go", not continuous praise.

I must stress that to a large extent our stability will depend on our close co-operation with SOCCER WORLD.

We intend to give this newspaper every support and assistance we possibly can and hope that they will become a reflection of our policy and actions.

I want to publicly acknowledge soccer's great debt to your newspaper which, over the last nine years, has brought many sacrifices for the code and certainly played a large part in its development and growth.

We are convinced that a strong and healthy NSW will eventually mean a strong and healthy Australia in soccer.

As chairman, it is my intention to follow the traditionally high quality of leadership my predecessors, Andy Burton, Dr. Seamonds, Ben Nathan and Frank Parsons have established.

Boundless faith

I have boundless faith in the future of soccer; without that, I could not have returned to the game's administration.

I feel we cannot fail — if we pull together.

I don't expect everybody to agree always on every detail — but I do expect everybody within soccer to regard the game more important than little personal interests.

If such a new spirit can be created and maintained, soccer, the world's most wonderful sport, will doubtlessly achieve the popularity and status in this country which befits its tradition and world-wide standing.

The era of bluffing, lobbying and conspiring is over — now we want an era of rolled-up sleeves, co-operation and loyalty.

I would, if I may, paraphrase the former great American President Kennedy's classic sentence from his inaugural speech:

"Don't ask what soccer can do for you — ask what you can do for soccer".

The President and
Executive Committee of the

N.S.W. Federation of Soccer Clubs

FEDERATION
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extends its Christmas and New Year's greetings to all member Clubs, Officials, Players as well as Amateur, Junior and Country Associations, State Federations, the Australian Soccer Federation, the victorious Australian national team and the entire soccer community at large.



It is our most sincere hope that 1968 will bring a new spirit to soccer and will mark a truly significant turning point in the code's history.



FLOTTA

LAURA